

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification and the Abstract of the Disclosure have been amended, and claims 1-7 and 11-12 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to conform to U.S. practice. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By



Robert C.F. Perez

Reg. No. 39328

Tel. No. (202)861-3777

Fax No. (202)822-0944

JSB/RCP/mjb

1100 New York Avenue, N.W., 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3918
(202)861-3000